

# *The Desert* SUSTAINER

January 2, 2004

*Serving the soldiers of LSA Anaconda and Sustainer Army Airfield*

## Soldiers, Airmen show off their talents

Story and photos by Pfc  
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Cyndi Lauper, Vanilla Ice, The Police and OutKast - an unlikely combination to say the least, let alone in the same song.

Senior Airman Jack Denny of the Logistics Readiness Squadron here on LSA Anaconda, pulled it off during the New Year's Day Talent Show to a cheering crowd of fans.

"I'll just start playing a song and realize I can go into another one and it just flows," explained Denny

Denny, a pianist at heart, just wanted to put smiles on faces.

"I started out playing the piano," said Denny. "That's my key instrument. I just picked up the guitar 'cause I wanted to be cool."

After rocking the crowd with his compilation, encore was chanted by the audience as Denny was announced as the winner.

"There's nothing like being able to control a crowd. People clap - it's just like an ocean wave and it just smacks into you - there's nothing like it," Denny said. "I'm just glad to get to play for people."



(Left) Staff Sgt. Michael Franklin sings his rendition of "If Only For One Night." (Bottom) Show winner, Senior Airman Jack Denny, performs his 80's-90's Melody.



## Fatal car bomb blows up Baghdad restaurant

BAGHDAD, Iraq (CNN) — A car bomb ripped through a restaurant Wednesday night in central Baghdad as patrons celebrated New Year's Eve, killing at least five people, according to a senior Iraqi official.

Gen. Ahmed Kadhim Ibrahim, senior deputy interior minister, said the five who died were Iraqis and that 15 people were wounded. Iraqi police put the wounded toll at 21.

Among the wounded were three correspondents for the Los Angeles Times.

The restaurant, popular with Westerners, and three or four other buildings were flattened in the blast. Flames shot into the sky immediately following the explosion.

Rescuers and Iraqi police searched

the rubble for survivors.

Ibrahim said authorities had information six days ago that such an attack was possible, though no specific target was mentioned.

He said he ordered police to stay alert and set up checkpoints, and restaurants hosting New Year's Eve parties were informed not to let cars park nearby.

Los Angeles Times spokesman David Garcia said the three correspondents were being treated for injuries that were not life-threatening. Four support workers for the newspaper suffered similar injuries, he said.

Iraqi police said the source of the blast was an explosives-laden car parked outside the Nabil restaurant, a trendy eatery in a residential and business district of the Iraqi capital that had advertised a

New Year's Eve celebration.

The blast, which left a crater, was heard around 9:20 p.m. (1:20 p.m. ET) and shook the hotel where CNN's staff is staying more than a mile away.

Windows on buildings more than 200 feet away from the primary blast site were blown out and the street was littered with debris.

Two U.S. armored personnel carriers rolled into the area about 30 minutes after the explosion, and about 30 to 40 U.S. soldiers conducted a sweep searching for other possible explosives.

"We will act appropriately to make sure that our soldiers and the Iraqi populace is protected from the potential attacks against us," said Dempsey, commander of the U.S. 1st Armored Division.

# Civil Affairs Soldier editing "Iraqi Journal of Medicine"

story by Sgt. Mark S. Rickert  
372nd MPAD

BAGHDAD, Iraq (Army News Service, Dec. 30, 2003) — During the last 10 years, physicians in Iraq have struggled for updated medical information, said a soldier with the 490th Civil Affairs Battalion who is the new editor of the "Iraqi Journal of Medicine."

"Iraqi physicians had no access to updated information," said Maj. John E. Padgett, the officer in charge of the public health team with the battalion, an Army Reserve unit based in Abilene, Texas, who now edits the journal.

"Before the war, a politically-connected physician could travel to Europe and Asia for seminars and advanced training, but most others could not," Padgett said.

Padgett, who is an educator at Samuel Merritt College in Oakland, Calif., said physicians must continue their education by reading medical journals and attending seminars. While new diagnostic techniques, breakthrough medicines and technological advances keep the medical world turning, physicians are obligated to keep up with the changes.

"Physicians have a responsibility to the patient to deliver the best care possible," Padgett said. "So they should be familiar with the newest diagnostics techniques, equipment and drug discoveries. If we didn't have continuing education, we'd still be bleeding patients instead of using antibiotics, cat scans and MRIs."

MRI stands for magnetic

resonance imaging.

Medical journals are crucial to physicians, yet Padgett said he knows of no medical journals published within Iraq since the first Gulf War. This makes the "Iraqi Journal of Medicine" an especially valuable tool for medical practitioners.

The Iraqi Journal of Medicine is a compilation of recently published medical information from all over the world, reviewed and summarized by the ministry of health and then passed to Padgett, who edits the material for language, relevancy and content.

Previously, the journal was a collection of gathered information from writers outside of Iraq. The next issue, however, will contain some articles written by Iraqis.

"We are striving for relevancy, and we're encouraging Iraqi physicians to solicit articles for the Iraqi Journal of Medicine," Padgett said. "Although we want to offer new information to the Iraqis and stimulate their thought processes, we also want to make the information relevant. The only people who can really do this are the Iraqis."



## Ring in the New Year

Revelers usher in 2004 with balloons and confetti in Times Square in the former British crown colony of Hong Kong.

### MWR Schedule

The Logistical Support Area Anaconda Sports Lounge features entertainment for soldiers and airman every night of the week. Monday through Thursday DJs play a variety of music. Friday nights feature a theme of either country, latin or hip-hop. Saturday and Sunday nights are reserved for sports.

### PLUMBING WORK

In the near future buildings 4114-4169, 4247 and 4248 will be receiving fixtures and toilets in preparation for running water. The tennets of these buildings are encouraged to clear all bathrooms of garbage and excess storage as well as cease all plumbing being done by contracted Iraqis.

### RESERVE ID CARDS

Due to units being extended, many reservists' ID cards are set to expire. Units confronting this issue should contact Staff Sgt. Jonathon Trussell, 90th Personnel Support Battalion, to set up an appointment to renew their ID cards. Trussell can be reached at 551-9903. Amendment orders are needed for new IDs.

### CONTACT US

The Desert Sustainer is a newsletter compiled printed and published by the 3rd Corps Support Command Public Affairs Office. Please send any comments, suggestions, submissions or story ideas to us by email at [grant.calease@us.army.mil](mailto:grant.calease@us.army.mil), or call 558-2053, or stop by Bldg. 4137.



While the Trojans are primed to win their first title in 25 years, they would have to share it. Voters for the Coaches' poll are obligated to crown the winner of Sunday's Sugar Bowl between No. 2 LSU and No. 3 Oklahoma, playing in the BCS championship game.

The signature play came late in the third quarter when Mike Williams took a reverse handoff from Hershel Dennis and flicked an easy pass to Leinart, who

With the big lead, all the Trojans needed to do was run out the clock — and then wait for the post-bowl AP poll to be released early Monday. But fans had their answer already, chanting “We’re No. 1! We’re No. 1!” during the final minutes.

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